AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (withdrawn) A system for improving the management of information in a group participant purchasing environment having a legacy database and legacy processing software comprising:

    a wide area network interface processor capable of accessing said legacy database and said legacy processing software, said interface processor for preparing said legacy database for transmission over a wide area network;

    a secure front end processor for receiving, by secure FTP, said legacy database into comma delimited text data fields in a new database; and

    an interim data storage and secure transfer processor for receiving said new database from said secure front-end processor and storing and transferring said new database to users in said group participant purchasing environment.

2.   (withdrawn) The system of Claim 1 wherein said wide area network is the Internet.

3. (withdrawn) The system of Claim 1 wherein said legacy database and said new database comprise employee benefit enrollment information.

4. (original) A method for managing information in a group participant purchasing environment, ~~said management occurring with minimal paperwork and with ease of access by individuals inexperienced with computer based information management tools,~~ the method comprising the steps of:

   providing access ~~data~~ processing for information ~~data exchange~~ and enrollment ~~data exchange~~ through a display device and an information input device;

   providing action ~~data~~ processing for modification of information ~~data~~ associated with an enrolled individual in the group participant purchasing environment;

   providing ~~multiparty~~ collaborative ~~data~~ processing for ~~including~~ co-browsing ~~capabilities for the~~ to effect modification of information ~~data~~ and/or the development of new information in conjunction with an established database associated with said group participant purchasing environment; and

   providing legacy ~~data~~ processing for translating business ~~database~~ rules and legacy application structure into a new structure suitable for use in conjunction with said access ~~data~~ processing, said action ~~data~~ processing, and said ~~multiparty~~ collaborative processing.

5.   (currently amended) The method of Claim 4 further comprising the step of providing user assistance data processing during any of said access data processing, action data processing, multiparty collaborative data processing, and legacy data processing steps, said user assistance data processing comprising the establishment of a concurrent co-browsing communication link between ~~the~~ a user and a customer service representative capable of answering questions and providing instructions to the user during the implementation of the method for managing information.

6.   (currently amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein said step of providing access data processing comprises the steps of:

   providing an initial screen display to a user with instructions for initial access to a database associated with the group participant purchasing environment;

   requesting and receiving from the user group identification information associated with the group participant purchasing environment;

   authorizing ~~group data~~ general access by the user to group data in the database;

   requesting and receiving employee and/or other individual identification information from the user;

   authorizing ~~individual data~~ specific access by the user to individual data within the database;

   querying whether concurrent co-browsing is requested by the user;

if concurrent co-browsing is requested by the user, connecting and

confirming access to a call center and acknowledging the

establishment of co-browsing;

retrieving group data from a~~group participant purchasing environment~~

the database; and

retrieving individual data from said database.

7.   (currently amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein said step of providing

action data processing comprises the steps of:

providing an action menu display to the user with instructions for

choosing actions;

querying whether the action data processing session involves initial

enrollment of the user, as determined by the user, by querying the

database, or by querying a legacy application structure;

if initial enrollment is not being requested, then displaying the current

individual data associated with the user and querying whether the

action data processing session is intended to modify the ~~current~~

individual data;

if initial enrollment is requested by the user, requesting and receiving the

~~employee or~~ individual data required for enrollment;

retrieving from an SQL database ~~the~~ available benefits options for the

user;

requesting and receiving modifications, deletions and/or additions to the

individual data from the user;

displaying the new individual data as modified and noting any errors

resulting from inconsistencies with the available benefits options;

querying whether further changes to the individual data are to be made

by the user;

if further changes are indicated, repeating said steps of requesting and

receiving modifications, deletions and/or additions and said step

of displaying new individual data as modified;

confirming that ~~the~~ action data processing is complete;

transferring modified individual data to ~~said~~ the SQL database; and

returning to said step of providing an action menu display.

8.   (currently amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein said step of providing

multiparty collaborative data processing comprises the steps of:

retrieving group program and plan structure information data from group

data within the group participant purchasing environment;

querying whether ~~multi-user~~ multiparty collaboration is required;

if ~~multi-user~~ multiparty collaboration is required, polling and logging in

~~disburse~~ a plurality of end users for collaboration and establishing

~~multi-user~~ a multiparty hierarchy and protocol for co-browsing

session;

if ~~multi-user~~ <u>multiparty</u> collaboration is not requested, establishing a one to one collaborative co-browsing session and querying the scope of collaboration;

carrying out a collaborative modification of data ~~and/or development of data~~ between users;

receiving input from the users and <u>creating and</u> revising a data work product;

broadcasting to the users ~~developments and~~ modifications in said data work product;

querying whether collaborative processing is complete;

if collaborative processing is not complete, broadcasting the status, querying whether further interaction is required, and returning to said steps of receiving input, revising said data work product, and broadcasting ~~developments and~~ modifications;

if collaborative processing is complete, closing the co-browsing session and end user links;

updating an employer and/or group plan database with <u>the</u> modified ~~or developed~~ data; and

emailing all users involved in said collaborative processing said updated ~~employer and/or group plan~~ database information.

9.   (currently amended) The method of Claim 4 wherein said step of providing legacy <u>data</u> processing comprises the steps of:

retrieving group historical information data from an initial database;

querying whether said initial database comprises a legacy system;

if said initial database does not comprise a legacy system, retrieving default database structures and business database rules;

if said initial database comprises a legacy system, retrieving legacy application in real-time with business database rules;

translating business database rules and legacy application structure into a standardized database structure and format in real-time;

generating a wide area network front-end system based on said standardized database structure and format;

querying whether any updates or changes to data within said initial database are required;

if any updates and changes are required, modifying the business database rules and/or structure to confirm compliance and returning to said step of generating a wide area network front-end system;

if no updates or changes are required, presenting an HTML website structure on said wide area network; and

providing interactive data exchange through said website structure in connection with an SQL database.